

Message Text

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TO USMISSION NATO NIACT IMMEDIATE

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TOSEC 31

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:PFOR

SUBJECT: PRIVATE MEETING OF MINISTERS PLUS PERMANENT
REPRESENTATIVES

REF: SEITZ-NEWLIN TELCON 12/9/73 BEGIN TEXT:

YOUR COLLEAGUES WILL EXPECT YOU TO TAKE A LEADING ROLE
AT THIS MEETING, WHICH IS DESIGNED TO STIMULATE FREER GIVE
AND TAKE BETWEEN MINISTERS THAN WOULD BE POSSIBLE IN A FOR-
MAL NAC SESSION. HOWEVER, THIS FORMAT IS UNUSUAL AT NATO
MINISTERIALS, AND I REMAINS TO BE SEEN WHETHER A FRANK
AND USEFUL EXCHANGE WILL IN FACT TAKE PLACE. A MEETING
WITH SECRETARY GENERAL LUNS PRIOR TO THE OPENING NAC
SESSION WILL GIVE YOU A CHANCE TO INDICATE YOUR HOPE THAT
THE RESTRICTED SESSION WILL YIELD A FULL AND PRODUCTIVE
EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON ISSUES OF MAIN CONCERN TO MINISTERS.

AGAINST THE BACKGROUND OF LUNS' SUGGESTIONS, YOU MAY
WISH TO PROCEED AS FOLLOWS:

--ON THE ISSUES OF THE ALLIED APPROACH TO THE YEAR OF
EUROPE UNDERTAKING AND THE MIDDLE EAST, COMMENT ON POINTS
MADE BY MINISTERS IN THEIR STATEMENTS TO THE FORMAL NAC
SESSION, AND RESPOND TO COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS DIRECTED TO
YOU IN THE COURSE OF THE RESTRICTED MEETING;

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--OUTLINE YOUR THINKING, TO THE EXTENT NOT COVERED IN YOUR NAC STATEMENT EARLIER, ON THE NEED FOR REINVIGORATING THE ALLIANCE AND GIVING ATLANTIC RELATIONS NEW EMOTIONAL CONTENT FOR THE YEARS AHEAD;

--IN THE SAME SPIRIT AS THE PRECEDING PARAGRAPH, OUTLINE YOUR ASSESSMENT OF THE LIKELY FUTURE EVOLUTION OF US-SOVIET AND US-CHINESE RELATIONS.

--BE PREPARED ALSO FOR QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE SUGGESTIONS, IN YOUR FORMAL NAC STATEMENT, THAT (1) WE SHOULD ASK OURSELVES WHAT WE EXPECT FROM MBFR, AND (2) THAT DESIRABLE SALT AND MBFR OUTCOMES SHOULD BE RELATED IN AN OVERALL CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK. (QUESTIONS OF THIS KIND WOULD REFLECT ALLIED CONCERNS ABOUT FBS; POSSIBLE DESTABILIZING US WITHDRAWLS UNDER MBFR; AND THE FUTURE OF THE STRATEGIC BALANCE BETWEEN THE US AND THE USSR).

NATO
DECEMBER 1973

CONCURRENCE: NSC- MR. HYLAND

END TEXT- RUSH

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